

Back again, live and semi-lovely, it's...

BLACK HOLE 13

April 19, 1975

What? So soon? And the format? Well, I never gave you an exact date, and, yes, it's sooner than even I expected. John Beshara has been bugging me to run the TFH game in BH, and then Greg Warden came through with a game. Oh well. You traders that I've sent money to, keep the checks.

I'm not sure of the format of future Black Holes. It may be this, it may be something else. Sub rates are still 7/\$1.00 (no inflation here) and trades are still welcome. Not only that, but all games are protected by DNYMPA, now under Scott Rosenberg. Now to the games...

1971 I

Summer 1913

The current position is:

ENGLAND (Terry Pnowles, 508 Oakwood Dr., Pickering, Ontario L1W 2M7,
CANADA): F Edi, F Eng
FRANCE (John Hendry, 101 Thatcher Hall, UMASS, Amherst, Massachusetts
02112): A Gas, F Mid, F Spa (sc), A Wal
GERMANY (Ron Kelly, 225 Virginia Ave. SE, #210, Washington, DC 20061):
A Tyo, A Boh, A Sil, A War, A Lvn, A Mos /d/ (Stp), A Bur, F Nrg
F Nth, F Den
ITALY (Steve Bender, 823 S. East Ave., Oak Park, Illinois 60304): A Ven,
A Tri, A Mar, F Iyo, F Wes, F Tyn, F Adr
TURKEY (Andy Phillips, 128 Oliver St., Daly City, California 94014):
A Sev, A Ukr, A Mos, A Gal, A Vie, A Bud, A Ser, A Rum, F Alb,
F Ion, F Aeg

The deadline for Fall 1913 is still April 26, 1975. You'll be getting the adjudications by carbon. Winter 1913 moves will be due 7:30 pm, Thursday, May 15, 1975, so I can synch it with my other game. BH 19 will be published then.

Also, my records on this game go back to Fall 1908 (STAB 106). My thanks to Ron Kelly. I would appreciate it if one of the players who has been in for the whole game send game related info for the early years. This will save a lot of hassle later on.

I do not believe in making players in orphan games pay to play, so subbing is optional.

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Out of room already? Gee, what a change. Guess what? I haven't given you my name and address yet. To remedy this, I am Douglas Reif, and I reside at 67 Grosvenor Road in Kenmore, NY 14223. Got that? My phone is 716-338-4452 (the most practical number), but unless you're well bankrolled, it won't pay to call me. I'm never (well almost never) home.

Typing this up is sure a change from keypunching. I haven't been near a typewriter in over two years and I have a hard time remembering to shift for capitals and that numbers aren't really capital letters,

AUSTRIA (Edi Birsan, 35-35 75th St., Jackson Heights, NY 11372):
 A Vie-Bud, A Bud-Ser, F Tri-Alb
 ENGLAND (Fred G. Hyatt, 400 State St., Brooklyn, NY 11217): F D
 F Edi-Nrg, A Liv-Yor
 FRANCE (William McDonough, 34 Concord Rd., Marlton, NJ 08053): F D
 A Har-Spa, A Par-Bur
 GERMANY (Steve Harvey, 9 Elm St., Birmingham, Alabama 35213): NTR --
 Neutral moves A Hun-Ruh, F Kie-Hol, A Ber-Kie
 ITALY (Ron Papandrea, 30315 Austin, Warren, Michigan 48092): A Ven-Pic
 A Rom-Ven, F Nap-Ion
 RUSSIA (Doug McMullin, RR2, Courtenay, British Columbia V9N 5N9, CANADA)
 NTR -- Neutral moves F Stp (sc)-Bot, A Mos-Sev, A War-Ukr,
 F Sev-Bla
 TURKEY (Steve McLendon, Box 57066, Webster, Texas 77598): A Con-Bul,
 F Ank-Ela, A Smy-Arn

Neutral moves for Germany were submitted by Mark Zimmerman. Fall 1901 moves are due Thursday, May 15, 1975 at 7:30 pm. We have two stand-bies. They are

G- Mark Zimmerman, CIT 1-87, Pasadena, California 91126
 R- F. Roy Thomas, 36 Pachino, Petawana, Ontario K8H 1B9, CANADA

They are requested to send in moves in case the present players don't respond.

It seems as if we are completely independent from Rev. Gorbun. As in the other game, there will be no charge required of the players. I have no idea whether your subs to TFH will be honored. I'd like to give special thanks to the TDA for helping organize this game. In case I should fold (doubtful), they will help find a home for it.

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"Things are seldom what they seem,
 Skin milk masquerades as cream."

William S. Gilbert from "H. M. S. Pinafore"

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Nothing much exciting in the newspaper. One article says that of a possible \$600 million dollar boom where Bahrain and United Arab Emirates were to purchase cow and chicken manure to fertilize the desert sands (honest!). Another deals with a free-lance Lebanese salesman who was arrested for bribing security guards to give him access to be buried in order to get a jump on his competition. Buffalo News April 12

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What's else? House rules begin on page 3. If anyone desires to write and I'll put it up as a vote. (space permitting) It's a game come home. The more you write, the more I'll put up for you.

HOUSE RULES

1. The 1971 rulebook will apply for this game. The following rules (with one exception) will deal with the postal aspects of the game.
2. Deadlines for moves will be determined by the gamesmaster and all players will be informed of them. For now they will be three week thursday deadlines but they may be subject to change.
3. The gamesmaster will adjudicate moves received by the deadline according to the rules of Diplomacy. The decisions reached will be final unless it is determined that a specific rule has been violated. In such a case, the game will be set back to the last move prior to this error.
4. Moves may be sent in any way the player sees fit. The gamesmaster will be responsible only for his own failures, and not those of the players or anyone else. If a player wishes to be called collect by the gamesmaster if moves are not received by the deadline, he must inform the gamesmaster of this.
5. All moves must contain the game number, the player's country, the season, and the player's signature. Last dated postmark will be used. There may only be moves for one player per envelope. It is advised that you specify that your moves are either original or updated.
6. Do not try to fool me.
7. At the gamesmaster's discretion, there may be a winter move season. If not, Spring moves may be made conditional upon the Winter builds and/or removals.
8. Other than the above circumstance, no prophecies will be required, although their use is encouraged.
9. If a player misses a season's moves, all his units will hold. If they are dislodged they will be annihilated. A standby will be appointed and he will send moves to be used conditionally on the response of the first player. If the first player misses two consecutive seasons, the standby will take over play of the country.
10. A country whose army is being convoyed may designate a specific convoy route which will be considered a one and only convoy route. This designation is optional, and if left out the 1971 rule on convoys will be used.

If any player wishes to propose a change to the houserules, he should notify the gamesmaster. Provided that I agree, the rule will be put up to vote. The rule change must have unanimous approval from the players involved with abstentions counted in favor. I may also propose houserule changes, in which case the same procedure applies. I guess that covers just about everything.

Touched By Human Hands Dept.

One by one, bean after bean, six women are sorting an entire 7.5 billion soybeans to pick the good ones from the bad. "I've reservations that this is the feasible way to do it," says Charlie. "We've got a problem."

The women are examining 50,000 bushels of beans in search of 90 bushels that had been sprayed with fungicide. That works out to one bad bean in every 1000 beans.

Mr. Wayne is an official of the Garbus Grain Co., which owns the beans stored in Burlington, Iowa at the Wayne elevator. He said Monday about 50 bushels of contaminated beans had been treated with two fungicides, captan and molybdenum, which are harmful to human health. The treated beans were to be used as seed for this year's planting. But they were inadvertently mixed into a bargeload of good soybeans, then sealed in the elevator last July.

The beans are moved over a slanted board where the women pick through them, looking for the telltale green coat on the bad beans. "The women are being paid \$2.60 an hour," said Mr. Wayne. "But I don't know when they'll get done this way. I don't think this is the final solution, especially in an era of mechanization."

Buffalo Evening News April 15

Fun and Games Part VI

This issue's game is Ninety-nine. This is one game that is better played in a non-sober state of mind, and with more players the merrier.

To begin, deal each player four cards. Each player plays a card on a pile, and adds the face value of the card to the count. The count begins at zero. After this, the player draws a card from the undealt pile. Aces count one or eleven, tens are minus ten, and nines are zero. Face cards count ten. The object is to be the last player to play a card before the count goes over 99. If a player cannot play a card without forcing the count over 99, he is out.

For example, the first player throws out the seven of hearts. The count is seven. The second player throws out the king of clubs making the count seventeen. The next player may throw a ten (if he has one) and make the count seven. The game proceeds ad nauseum.

Handy hint: save your nines, tens and aces until you really need them. These cards are handy near the end of the game when the count is hovering around 99.

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Plug

Guess what? It's plug time again. One thing that I can highly recommend is Atlantis, published by Chris and Deb Schleicher, 111 West 61st Willow Road, Apt. 214, Wheeling, Illinois 60090. Atlantis is a very nice and carries many RFA articles. If my memory serves right only \$5.00 and if your lucky you can enter a game at \$7.00. I might be a little late since I don't have a copy handy, or write first.